

## REMARKS

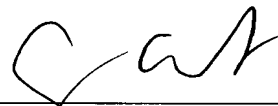
Claims 1-15 are now pending. The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependencies and to conform to U.S. practice. Claims 3-4 have been further amended for clarification without changing the scope thereof. Support for these amendments is found on page 8, lines 9-10 and page 7, lines 16-17 of the specification, respectively. New claims 12-15 find support in claim 11. No new matter has been added and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket No. 246152024700.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 17, 2004

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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